

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JASON THOMAS,  
Plaintiff,

v.

D. BROCK, et al.,  
Defendants.

Case No. 16-02057 EJD (PR)

**ORDER OF SERVICE; DIRECTING  
DEFENDANTS TO FILE  
DISPOSITIVE MOTION OR  
NOTICE REGARDING SUCH  
MOTION; INSTRUCTIONS TO  
CLERK**

Plaintiff, a state inmate at the California Health Care Facility, filed the instant pro se civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against prison officials at Pelican Bay State Prison (“PBSP”). Plaintiff’s motion for leave to proceed in forma pauperis will be addressed in a separate order.

**DISCUSSION**

**A. Standard of Review**

A federal court must conduct a preliminary screening in any case in which a prisoner seeks redress from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). In its review, the court must identify any cognizable claims and dismiss any claims that are frivolous, malicious, fail to state a claim

1 upon which relief may be granted or seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune  
2 from such relief. See id. § 1915A(b)(1),(2). Pro se pleadings must, however, be liberally  
3 construed. See Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep't, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1988).

4 To state a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a plaintiff must allege two essential  
5 elements: (1) that a right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States was  
6 violated, and (2) that the alleged violation was committed by a person acting under the  
7 color of state law. See West v. Atkins, 487 U.S. 42, 48 (1988).

#### 8 **B. Plaintiff's Claims**

9 Plaintiff claims that between June 28, 2015 and September 7, 2015, while housed at  
10 PBSP's Treatment Center under suicidal watch, Defendants refused to feed him on  
11 numerous occasions. (Compl. Attach. at 3.) Plaintiff claims that Defendants were each  
12 personally involved, condoned, or oversaw the "acts of not feeding" him because he had a  
13 milk carton in his assigned cell which he refused to relinquish. (Id.) Plaintiff claims that  
14 although he presented no threat to Defendants, they refused him food as "incentive or  
15 punishment." (Id.) Liberally construed, Plaintiff's allegations are sufficient to state a  
16 claim under the Eighth Amendment as a serious deprivation of a basic necessity. See  
17 Farmer v. Brennan, 511 U.S. 825, 834 (1994); Johnson v. Lewis, 217 F.3d 726, 732-733  
18 (9th Cir. 2000).

### 20 **CONCLUSION**

21 For the reasons state above, the Court orders as follows:

22 1. The Clerk of the Court shall mail a Notice of Lawsuit and Request for  
23 Waiver of Service of Summons, two copies of the Waiver of Service of Summons, a copy  
24 of the complaint, all attachments thereto, and a copy of this order upon **Defendants Sgt. D.**  
25 **Brock, Sgt. Caraway, Sgt. J. Simpson; and Correctional Officers S. Owen, and J.**  
26 **Simpson at Pelican Bay State Prison** (P.O. Box 7000, Crescent City, CA 95531). The  
27 Clerk shall also mail a copy of this Order to Plaintiff.

2. Defendants are cautioned that Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires them to cooperate in saving unnecessary costs of service of the summons and the complaint. Pursuant to Rule 4, if Defendants, after being notified of this action and asked by the Court, on behalf of Plaintiff, to waive service of the summons, fail to do so, they will be required to bear the cost of such service unless good cause shown for their failure to sign and return the waiver form. If service is waived, this action will proceed as if Defendants had been served on the date that the waiver is filed, except that pursuant to Rule 12(a)(1)(B), Defendants will not be required to serve and file an answer before **sixty (60) days** from the day on which the request for waiver was sent. (This allows a longer time to respond than would be required if formal service of summons is necessary.) Defendants are asked to read the statement set forth at the foot of the waiver form that more completely describes the duties of the parties with regard to waiver of service of the summons. If service is waived after the date provided in the Notice but before Defendants have been personally served, the Answer shall be due sixty (60) days from the date on which the request for waiver was sent or twenty (20) days from the date the waiver form is filed, whichever is later.

3. No later than **ninety-one (91) days** from the date of this order, Defendants shall file a motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion with respect to the claims in the complaint found to be cognizable above.

a. Any motion for summary judgment shall be supported by adequate factual documentation and shall conform in all respects to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Defendants are advised that summary judgment cannot be granted, nor qualified immunity found, if material facts are in dispute. If any Defendant is of the opinion that this case cannot be resolved by summary judgment, he shall so inform the Court prior to the date the summary judgment motion is due.

b. **In the event Defendants file a motion for summary judgment, the Ninth Circuit has held that Plaintiff must be concurrently provided the appropriate**

1 warnings under Rand v. Rowland, 154 F.3d 952, 963 (9th Cir. 1998) (en banc). See  
2 Woods v. Carey, 684 F.3d 934, 940 (9th Cir. 2012).

3 4. Plaintiff's opposition to the dispositive motion shall be filed with the Court  
4 and served on Defendants no later than **twenty-eight (28) days** from the date Defendants'  
5 motion is filed.

6 Plaintiff is also advised to read Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and  
7 Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317 (1986) (holding party opposing summary judgment  
8 must come forward with evidence showing triable issues of material fact on every essential  
9 element of his claim). Plaintiff is cautioned that failure to file an opposition to  
10 Defendants' motion for summary judgment may be deemed to be a consent by Plaintiff to  
11 the granting of the motion, and granting of judgment against Plaintiff without a trial. See  
12 Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53–54 (9th Cir. 1995) (per curiam); Brydges v. Lewis, 18  
13 F.3d 651, 653 (9th Cir. 1994).

14 5. Defendants shall file a reply brief no later than **fourteen (14) days** after  
15 Plaintiff's opposition is filed.

16 6. The motion shall be deemed submitted as of the date the reply brief is due.  
17 No hearing will be held on the motion unless the Court so orders at a later date.

18 7. All communications by the Plaintiff with the Court must be served on  
19 Defendants, or Defendants' counsel once counsel has been designated, by mailing a true  
20 copy of the document to Defendants or Defendants' counsel.

21 8. Discovery may be taken in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil  
22 Procedure. No further court order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(a)(2) or Local  
23 Rule 16-1 is required before the parties may conduct discovery.

24 9. It is Plaintiff's responsibility to prosecute this case. Plaintiff must keep the  
25 court informed of any change of address and must comply with the court's orders in a  
26 timely fashion. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of this action for failure to  
27 prosecute pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

1           10. Extensions of time must be filed no later than the deadline sought to be  
2 extended and must be accompanied by a showing of good cause.

3           **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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5           **Dated:** 7/28/2016

  
EDWARD J. DAVILA  
United States District Judge

United States District Court  
Northern District of California

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